

Minutes

Delaware Council of Faith-Based Partnerships Meeting

Tuesday, April 7, 2015

1-2 pm

Smyrna Rest Area Conference Room

5500 N. DuPont Highway

Smyrna DE 19977

Attendees: Jen Hill, Doug Gerdtz, Michael Beals, Kenny Foster, Jeanne Cashman, Max Wolf, Flora McConkie.

Meeting called to order by Doug at approx. 1:20 pm.

Minutes of March meeting approved.

Review of second “Lunch and Learn,” with Jay Lynch from Department of Health and Social Services, discussing I-ADAPT. About 11 attendees were not Council members. Council members attending included Jeanne, Max, Kenny and Flora. Good interest, dialogue and questions. Discussion regarding Council supporting possible legislation on I-ADAPT. Jeanne suggested Council hear from other I-ADAPT representatives in Education, Labor, Housing, and Transportation. Flora and Kenny to schedule two representatives for next month’s Council meeting. Jeanne also suggested a study to analyze success of program. Doug and Flora to meet with Jay regarding possible legislation. Consider identifying key legislators. Concern expressed regarding mandate of Council and role in legislation. Michael suggested discussing Council involvement with Governor. Max suggested an opinion piece on the issue.

Discussion regarding **suggestion from Bruce Gillette** (Limestone Presbyterian Church in Wilmington). He attended last month’s “Lunch and Learn.” By email, he encouraged the Council to “consider doing a future program on how Delaware’s public schools and faith communities can work together to help students and their families.” In particular, he recommended a resource from a recent Wesley Theological Seminary/United Methodist Church conference. They have “Engaging Local Schools” resources, including a list of 50 ways faith communities can engage local schools. Max expressed concern regarding attempts to promote particular faiths, to convert students. Flora to submit proposal for possible “Lunch and Learn” on education issues and faith communities. Could be a topic for November “Lunch and Learn.”

Discussion regarding need for **additional Council members**. Flora following up on possibility (Methodist). Jen to check in with Boards/Commissions on process. Hindu and Sikh representatives to be sought.

Einstein Academy Gala honoring Michael was sold out, so no Council member attended. Raina made donation in Council’s name. Michael encouraged interfaith bridge building among youth.

Next meeting. Tuesday, May 5, 2015.

Meeting adjourned at approx. 2:20 pm.

Submitted by Flora McConkie, DCFBP Secretary, May 4, 2015.

Upcoming Meetings

Tuesday, June 2, 2015

Tour of Sussex Community Correctional Center in Georgetown (Tentative) and Council meeting, 1-3 pm.

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

Council meeting, Rehoboth Beach (All Saints' Episcopal Church), 1-3 pm.

No meeting in August.

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Council meeting, Wilmington (Congregation Beth Shalom), 1-3 pm.

Tuesday, October 6, 2015

"Lunch and Learn" on Emergency Preparedness/Response, followed by Council meeting, Delaware Emergency Management Agency in Smyrna, 12-2 pm.

Tuesday, November 3, 2015

"Lunch and Learn," followed by Council meeting, topic and location TBA, 12-2 pm.

Tuesday, December 1, 2015

Council meeting, location TBA, 1-3 pm.